MINUTES -amended

Seattle Human Rights Commission Meeting

Thursday, April 7, 2011, 6:00–8:00 p.m. City Hall - Boards and Commissions Room

<u>Commissioners Present</u> Jessica Andrade, Damien Carter, Joshuah Marshall,

Marty Penner, Mike Peters, Mica Powers, Roslyn Solomon, Christopher Stearns, Jennifer Yogi

Commissioner Regrets Jesse Aspuria, Nika Dahlbacka, Andrew Lewis, Merri

Ann Osborne, Keith Toussaint

SOCR Staff Present Julie Nelson, JT Delich, Ronald Ramp

Guests Present Lisa Daugaard, Seattle Defender Association

John Page, Seattle Defender Association

Bonnie Baker, Northwest Harvest;

Shayne Kraemer, Meals Partnership Coalition

Krista Grimm, Operation Sack Lunch Joe Gruber, University District Food Bank

Emily Alvarado, Housing Development Consortium

BP Jackson, Peter Duncan, Tanzanie Roach

<u>Call to Order</u> The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes March 2011 minutes approved as read

Bruce Harrell

Council Member Harrell spoke briefly about a proposed change in City policy regarding housing and employment. Differential treatment based on arrest and conviction has a disparate impact on people of color. CM Harrell recommended taking a more educational approach versus an adversarial approach.

SOCR Report

Julie Nelson introduced JT Delich and Ron Ramp from SOCR. Julie advised that the former Enforcement Manager resigned for a great opportunity in the private sector. The Enforcement Manager position will be filled as out-of-class until the end of the year. A position will remain vacant until the end of the year to meet a 3% non sustaining budget cut.

Park Bans

Lisa Daugaard and John Page from the Seattle Defender Association presented. The Defender Association would like the ban policy modified in two ways:

- Institute an appeal procedure for the bans. They feel the lack of due process is unconstitutional.
- Discontinue the practice of banning a person from the parks based on one violation. The Defender Association would like rules enforcement, not blanket bans on people.

The Defender Association stated that it will write a letter to the City Council requesting changes in policy, and asked that the Commission support its efforts.

MOTION: To write a letter to the City Council supporting the park ban policy change. **Action: PASSED**

<u>Right to Food Panel</u>

Bonnie Baker, Northwest Harvest; Shayne Kraemer, Meals Partnership Coalition; Krista Grimm, Operation Sack Lunch; Joe Gruber, University District Food Bank

- Increased demand for food service, with decreased donations
- City seeks to combine meal services with grocery type services
- Panelists advised this will not save money and will create more work
- Plans for food services during emergencies have been developed
- In Seattle about 84,000 non duplicate households have received food assistance in the past year
- Cuts in food programs affect people of color at higher rates
 Campaign Coordinator, Seattle Healthy Workforce Coalition

Roslyn Solomon appearance on Seattle Channel

The commission discussed Roslyn Solomon appearing on the Seattle Channel round table about police wearing body-mounted cameras. The appearance is prior to the next meeting; a decision should be made at this meeting. The discussion will continue via e-mail.

SHRC communication plan

Some of the details of this plan were unclear. Commissioners would like to have the communication plan distributed again so everyone has a clear understanding of the communication plan.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.